



The Harms of Pornography: A Feminist Framework

AGENDA

October 24-25, 2017

The Indiana Coalition to End Sexual Assault proudly brings you this two-day training featuring three national experts, two documentary screenings, a panel discussion featuring feminist scholars and experts from Indiana, and small group discussions designed for service providers working in the fields of sexual violence prevention and response.

DAY 1 – OCTOBER 24, 2017

9:00am – 9:05am Opening Remarks

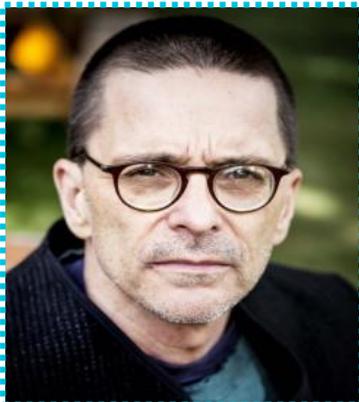
9:05am – 12:05pm Dr. Rebecca Whisnant



Rebecca Whisnant is professor and chair of the philosophy department at the University of Dayton. She is the editor (with Christine Stark) of *Not for Sale: Feminists Resisting Prostitution and Pornography* and (with Peggy DesAutels) *Global Feminist Ethics*. Her most recent journal publications include “Pornography, Humiliation, and Consent,” “Our Blood: Andrea Dworkin on Race, Privilege, and Women’s Common Condition,” and “But What About Feminist Porn?” Examining the Work of Tristan Taormino.” She is a founder and board member of Culture Reframed, a national nonprofit addressing pornography as the public health crisis of the digital age.

12:05pm – 1:35pm Lunch on Your Own

1:35pm – 3:05pm Dr. Robert Jensen



Robert Jensen is a professor in the School of Journalism at the University of Texas, a founding board member of the Third Coast Activist Resource Center, and a member of the board of Culture Reframed. Jensen’s new book, *The End of Patriarchy: Radical Feminism for Men*, is out from Spinifex Press. It offers a critique of the pathology of patriarchy that is at the core of today’s crises. In his writing and teaching, Jensen draws on a variety of critical approaches to media and power. Much of his work has focused on pornography and the radical feminist critique of sexuality and men’s violence, and he also has addressed questions of race through a critique of white privilege and institutionalized racism.

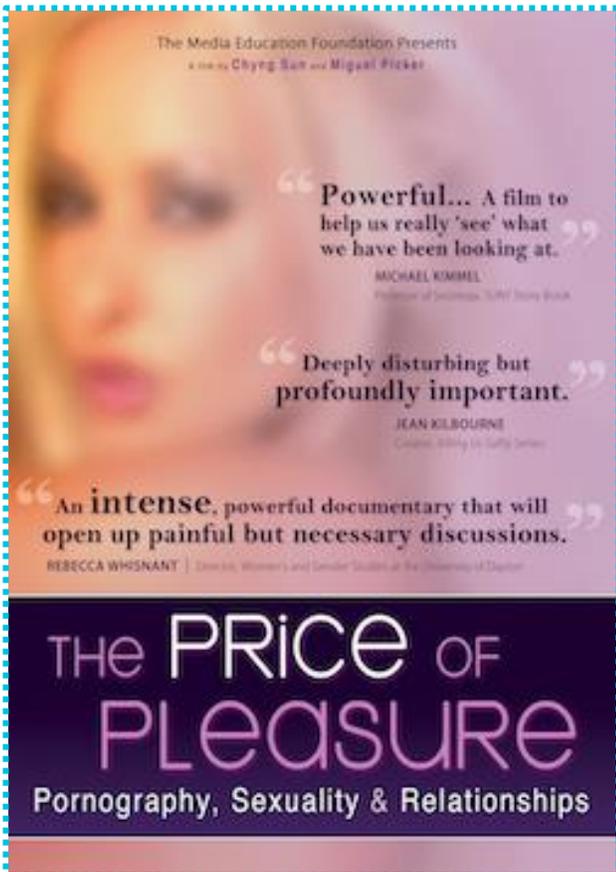
3:05pm – 3:15pm Break

3:15pm – 4:15pm *The Price of Pleasure* Documentary Screening

Directed and Produced by Miguel Picker and Chyng Sun

Co-Writer and Associate Producer: Robert Wosnitzer

Once relegated to the margins of society, pornography has become one of the most visible and profitable



sectors of the cultural industries in the United States. It is estimated that the pornography industry's annual revenue has surpassed \$13 billion. At the same time, the content of pornography has become more aggressive, more overtly sexist and racist. The film features the voices of consumers, critics, and pornography producers and performers. The film paints both a nuanced and complex portrait of how pleasure and pain, commerce and power, and liberty and responsibility are intertwined in the most intimate aspects of human relations. At the same time, the film examines the unprecedented role that commercial pornography now occupies in U.S. popular culture. Going beyond the debate of liberal versus conservative so common in the culture, *The Price of Pleasure* provides a holistic understanding of pornography as it debunks common myths about the genre. The film features interviews with scholars of mass media (Gail Dines and Robert Jensen), economics (Richard Wolff), and psychology (Dr. Ana Bridges); writers on pornography and popular culture (Ariel Levy and Pamela Paul); producers and performers from the pornography industry (John Stagliano, Joanna Angel, and Ernest Greene); and a former stripper/porn performer-turned-

author (Sarah Katherine Lewis).

Viewer Discretion Advised: Please be advised that this *educational documentary* contains violence, nudity, and graphic sexual imagery – including bondage – excerpted from pornographic films. We highly recommend that attendees watch the [trailer](#) for this film beforehand in order to assess whether or not they would like to stay for this portion of the training. We have purposefully scheduled this documentary for the end of the day so those who wish to opt out of this portion do not miss anything else.

4:15pm – 5:00pm Discussion

DAY 2 – OCTOBER 25, 2017

9:00am – 9:05am Opening Remarks

9:05am – 10:35am Lisa L. Thompson

Lisa L. Thompson is Vice President & Director of Research and Education for the National Center on Sexual



Exploitation, where she oversees NCOSE’s strategic planning for increased public understanding of sexual exploitation related issues. Lisa conducts analysis, develops research initiatives, and liaises with a wide-range of public officials, non-profit organizations, institutions of higher learning, and academics to address wide-ranging sexual exploitation issues such as sex trafficking, prostitution, strip clubs, child sexual abuse, sexual assault, and the public health crisis of pornography. Prior to her joining NCOSE, Lisa worked as the Director of Anti-Trafficking for World Hope International and as the Liaison for the Abolition of Sexual Trafficking for the Salvation Army National Headquarters.

10:35am – 10:45am Break

10:45am – 12:00pm Expert Panel

“Feminism, Agency, and Pornography: Using Feminist Theory as a Tool for Difficult Discussions”

- 📎 Lisa Thompson
 - Vice President & Director of Research and Education
 - National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE)
- 📎 April Lidinsky, PhD
 - Associate Professor of Women’s Studies
 - Indiana University South Bend
- 📎 Connie Adams, MSW, LCSW
 - Director of Belles Against Violence Office
 - Saint Mary’s College
 - Consultant and Trainer
 - CLA Training & Consulting
- 📎 Catherine A. Dobris, PhD
 - Director of Women’s Studies; Associate Professor of Communication Studies
 - Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
- 📎 Mahri Irvine, PhD
 - Director of Campus Initiatives
 - Indiana Coalition to End Sexual Assault (ICESA)
 - Adjunct Professorial Lecturer in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program
 - American University
- 📎 Sandra Miles, PhD
 - Dean of Students & Director of Student Affairs
 - Indiana University-Purdue University Columbus

12:00pm – 1:00pm Lunch on Your Own

1:00pm – 2:15pm *Not Just Pictures* Documentary Screening



Not Just Pictures explores the horrific issue of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), with a focus on child pornography. The Internet has radically changed how CSE images are produced, reproduced & disseminated, resulting in a massive increase in their availability, accessibility, volume and violence. Making and trading CSE images is now a multi-billion-dollar industry and sadly, is one of the fastest growing businesses online. This documentary will, for the first time, give voice to the doubly silenced victims, through a world view on the immediate and lasting impact of what has been so blithely referred to as “just pictures.” In fact, all child pornography offenses, including possession, are extremely serious because they revictimize the child, and validate and normalize the sexual exploitation of children. Plus, once an image is on the Internet, it is impossible to erase. So, victims are haunted by the fear not

just that someone who knows them will see the images, but worse, that someone who sees the images online will look for the child to commit a sexual assault, since research shows that many offenders view CSE images as a blueprint for action. Through moving interviews of victims, parents, and professionals, this film explores the history of CSE including the case that opened the world’s eyes to the largest operation of child pornography in history. We’ll explain the role of CSE images in sex trafficking. We’ll hear about the lifelong fear and paranoia of victims who worry (accurately) that someone has seen or is looking for images of their abuse. Viewers will learn of the worst-case scenarios of images that include child torture and which have resulted in the deaths of children during production of such. We will inform viewers of the herculean efforts which are necessary to find and prosecute the offenders and to identify and rescue the children. Finally, we will ignite social change by providing a “toolbox” to empower viewers to take action and protect children.

2:15pm – 3:00pm Small-Group Discussions Re: Prevention and Response in Daily Work

After two full days of building knowledge, this last portion of the training will allow you to network with your colleagues. We hope that these discussions will allow you to talk through the skill-building and capacity needed to apply lessons learned to your daily work in prevention and response.